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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

January 13, 2003

BY FACSIMILE: 202/512-5507
ORIGINAL VIA U.S. MAIL

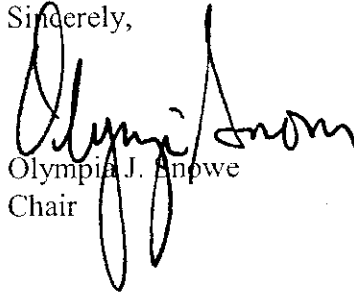
The Honorable David Walker
Comptroller General of the United States
U.S. General Accounting Office
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Walker:

Recently, the *Los Angeles Times* ran an article examining "loopholes, errors and fraud" that allow large companies to improperly obtain government contracts set aside for small businesses. As incoming Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship, I request that the General Accounting Office conduct a full investigation into whether large companies are indeed obtaining government contracts set aside for small businesses. The pertinent article is attached for your information.

Please have your staff coordinate with my office to arrange a meeting to discuss the scope of this investigation. I would appreciate receiving a response by January 17, 2003. If your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please have them contact Dan Donovan at (202) 224-
Thank you in advance for your continued assistance.

Sincerely,



Olympia J. Snowe
Chair